

INFORMAT~~SECRET~~ REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)  
SUBJECT Soviet Troop Activities and Movements

DATE DISTR. 25 March 1948

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE  
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO. 50X1-HUM

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH  
USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

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1. On 3 January 1948 two railway gun trains arrived on the troop training ground at Ohrdruf bei Gotha.
2. Each train consisted of five special military cars, one freight car (presumably a closed freight car, possibly for ammunition), two baggage cars (presumably luggage-vans for the crew), and mounted one 170 mm gun on a 14-axled (sic) special car.
3. The guns are further described as having a barrel 10-12 m long with a range of 29,600 meters, mounted on a howitzer carriage ('in Mrs. Laf') and with a sliding square-wedge breechblock ("Schubkarbelflacheilverschluss").
4. The trains came from Magdeburg. Each carried a crew of five officers and sixty men between the ages of 25-35 years. Discipline appeared to be good. Shoulder-boards were black with red piping and brass crossed gun-barrels.
5. On 28, 29, and 30 December 1947 from 1830 hrs until almost 1500 hrs the parachute units quartered in the Luftkriegsschule at Dresden/Klitzsche were transported by plane in the Königsbrück direction. Four "Ju 52" type aircraft were used.
6. On the same dates parachute landings from four type "Ju 52" aircraft coming from the south were observed at Königsbrück Troop Training Ground, north of Krahau.
7. From each plane ten men jumped at three-second intervals from a height of about 200 m. There were no accidents, and after each set of jumps the aircraft landed, picked up their passengers, and set off towards the south.
8. During December 1947, all the units of the Third Shock Army left Magdeburg for the East, with the exception of the following which remain:
  - a. Headquarters Staff
  - b. Smerish
  - c. Soldiers serving sentences of detention

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Class. CHANGED TO: TS S

EDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77-11963

Date: 4 May 78

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- d. Part of the Trophy Brigade, which was, however, rapidly dispersing.
9. From the beginning of December to December 22 1947 troops of the Third Shock Army passed through Frankfurt a/Oder, travelling eastwards by rail. 50X1-HUM

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